

Water Quality Protection Division



Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico Region 6 Update

Subject: **Water Quality Division Update # 49**
 Mississippi Canyon 252 Oil Spill, Gulf of Mexico

Date: July 9, 2010

Reporting Period: July 8, 2010 1300 – July 9, 2010 1300

HIGHLIGHTS

- R6 is reviewing the BP Liquid Waste and Materials Management Plan and will finalize comments by July 12th.

CONTINUING ISSUES

Forecast

The nearshore oil forecast created by NOAA on 7/8/10 at 2100 CDT for 7/9/10 at 1200 CDT (Figure 1) indicates that the main portion of the oil slick will be east of Louisiana with portions of the slick south of the Delta extending westward towards Barataria and Caillou Bay. Winds are variable and weak predominately out of the southwest through the evening. Shoreline contacts may occur in Chandeleur and Mississippi Sound, on the barrier islands of Mississippi and the areas west of Mobile, Al. Models continue to show the current winds and currents will move oil west of the delta and then northwards towards Barataria and Caillou Bay. Shoreline contacts are expected between Southwest Pass and Caillou Bay. No oil has been spotted during overflights west of Caillou Bay. The strong westward coastal currents are expected to weaken but additional scattered tarball impacts to Texas may occur.

- For maps concerning shoreline impact assessments, oil slick forecasts, and sampling locations go to <http://www.deepwaterhorizonresponse.com/go/doctype/2931/53979/>

Monitoring and Assessment

- Continuing to coordinate with HQ, Region 4, and the REOC Environmental Unit regarding planning activities and daily review of monitoring data.

Drinking Water

- Drinking water intakes, public drinking water wells, and domestic wells have not been impacted by the oil sheen to date.
- EPA Region 6 continues to coordinate closely with the LDHH on all drinking water issues.

NPDES

- Participating in discussions with OW and R4 on options for modification of existing oil and gas general permits in the Gulf of Mexico.

Coastal Programs

Louisiana Large-Scale Coastal Barrier Plan:

- The Corps has requested additional information from the State prior to sending the full permit application package out for interagency review.

Corps Emergency Authorizations for Coastal Protection Features:

- Staff provided comments to the Corps on an emergency request for a mechanical beach sand cleaning operation on Grand Isle. No objections were raised, though conditions were proposed and additional coordination guidance was provided.

Corps Navigation Maintenance Dredging:

- Ongoing coordination between Region 6, Region 4, OW and OGC regarding potential options for dredged material management.

Coastal Wetlands Planning, Protection and Restoration Act (CWPPRA)

- It is anticipated that there may be re-oiling of several shorelines in the vicinity of CWPPRA projects.